

**TOPIC: STATEWIDE ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS**

**PREPARED BY: DR. CHERYL LOVELL**

**I. SUMMARY**

This agenda item recommends five (5) statewide articulation agreements in History, Math, Psychology-BA, Psychology-BS, and Spanish.

**II. BACKGROUND**

Pursuant to 23-1-108, the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) has the authority to establish and enforce statewide degree transfer agreements between two-year and four-year state institutions. Pursuant to HB10-1208, the CCHE must establish at least 14 statewide articulation agreements before July 1, 2016. Moreover, according to 23-1-108(7)(a) the commission must consult with the governing boards or institutions throughout the process of establishing statewide articulation agreements. CCHE has utilized the GE Council to conduct this work.

An articulation agreement is an officially approved agreement that matches coursework between schools. Thus the articulation agreement represents a course of study leading to a degree in an academic major that will allow a student to begin at one institution, typically a community college, and subsequently matriculate into the bachelor's degree granting institution. These agreements are important as they are designed to help students make smooth transitions when transferring from two-year institutions to four-year institutions. The operational importance to students is that the agreement assures them successful completion of the major if they follow the prescribed curriculum. Additionally, the articulation agreements serve as an important academic advising tool for students, faculty, and administrators whereby all involved are aware of the courses that will allow a successful completion.

**III. STAFF ANALYSIS**

Department staff has worked extensively with the GE Council and governing board and institutional representatives in developing the attached five articulation agreements in History, Math, Psychology-BA, Psychology-BS, and Spanish. Over the last two years, members of the GE Council met monthly to discuss potential statewide articulation agreements. During this process, the council identified several high demand academic majors that appeared suitable for statewide transfer agreements. Faculty representatives have been involved in these monthly discussions as well as through the biannual Faculty-to-Faculty conferences, typically held each fall and spring term.

The Chief Academic Officer and campus President/Chancellor of each public institution in the state has provided an electronic signature to the Department (with hard copy signatures to follow). The signatures on these statewide articulation agreements represent, at a minimum, a commitment by institutions to accept these classes toward a bachelor's degree assuming successful completion of the prescribed curriculum by the student.

**IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**That the CCHE approve the proposed statewide articulation agreements in History, Math, Psychology-BA, Psychology-BS, and Spanish (attached).**

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

23-1-108(7)(a) Duties and powers of the commission with regard to system-wide planning.